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LB 500

I think is perplexing in an effort at economic development in this kind of area, and that is the fact that it, by its nature, sinks to the level, or rises to the level, however you want to characterize it, of involving some retail type businesses. But yet again, I would ask you, a fabulous restaurant properly conceptualized as part of the French Quarter, for example. You know, if it's part of a bigger whole and there's a whole concept and that concept draws people from someplace, maybe we ought to leave it to the judgment of a board, as this bill does,...

SENATOR CUDABACK PRESIDING

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...as to whether once in a while that which is financed can be partly retail and partly not retail, something other than retail, the attraction itself. But it takes a new way of thinking about things. But I submit to you again that tourism has not had its due, has not had the kind of thinking that we should be giving to it. And if it comes...and if that thinking comes to us from the lawyers for Cabela's, so be it, but I think of it beyond Cabela's to what the concept of an entertainment and tourist district is, and I think that's the way we should all think about it and consider whether that's not...whether that doesn't have a place in our arsenal of economic incentives. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Smith, followed by Senator Dwite Pedersen.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. President and members. I rise in support of LB 500. And what I have enjoyed most about serving in the Legislature is being exposed to various parts of Nebraska, various employers, various entities, activities and otherwise. And if you'll allow me, I'll share an experience. I was touring the Kawasaki plant here in Lincoln. It's not in my district, but it contributes immensely to Nebraska. And Senator Hudkins was with me that day, and I couldn't help but walking around that plant thinking how great it was that we have people working, number one; people working in Nebraska, number two; but the amazing thing to me was the fact that they were